1 Interview Summaries

1.1 Lincoln County Commissioner (District 2)

Interview Type   Personal, Municipality
Interview Location   604 Winslows Mills Road
Interview Date   October 26, 2001
Summary Date   November 9, 2001
Interviewer   CDM / Michelle Thaler (thalerma@cdm.com)
Interviewed: William B Blodgett, Commissioner, District 2 (wbb@midcoast.com)
                        604 Winslows Mills Road
                        Waldoboro, ME 04572
                        207-832-4402

Staff Size (approx)   No GIS staff
Budget (approx)   0-50,000 grant from State Planning Office
URL: http://www.co.lincoln.me.us/

1.1.1 Overview

Comprised of 18 towns and 1 plantation, Lincoln County contains 457 square miles including 451 miles of coastline and six rivers. According to 1990 census figures, the county has a population of 30,357. Not all towns within the county have full time staff. Some towns have part time Selectmen while others are governed by a Town Manager. There are many towns in the county with limited personnel and technical resources. Many towns have limited or no computer resources and no access to the Internet.

1.1.2 GIS Initiatives

1.1.2.1 Overview of GIS Utilization

The county has a small grant which it plans to use to develop some GIS data for the county. Gerald Silva, the Emergency Management director, helped obtain a grant from the State Planning Office. The County plans to house its GIS operations at the Lincoln County Courthouse and have software and data within 6 to 8 months.

1.1.2.2 GIS Operating Environment and Infrastructure

The county plans to obtain a copy of ArcView software from the state.

1.1.2.3 GIS Data Resources and Requirements

1.1.2.3.1 Spatial Data

- The County plans to download data layers from OGIS
- The County planner, who is a contract employee, had Aerials flown along Route 1 in 1998. There is no digital data of the aerials

Existing data sets include:
Basemap features: none

Analysis layers include: None – plan to download OGIS data

Currently unavailable but desired data sets include:
Roads (E911)
Public buildings including schools
Water
Wetlands
Zoning
Coastal Zoning
Service area maps from utility company (to indicate where there is service in Lincoln county)

1.1.2.3.2 Attribute Data

None

1.1.2.3.3 Data Issues

The majority of the towns in Lincoln County require paper maps. The county commissioners see the county as a resource for the towns. The County could house a plotter and print maps for the towns as needed.

1.1.2.4   GIS Applications and Application Requirements

Planned future GIS activity and applications:
The County planner would like to use GIS for planning purposes.

1.1.3 Major Benefits and Cost Justification

The county is looking toward the state and OGIS for GIS guidance. In order for towns in the county to invest in GIS technology and data there must be a benefit to the towns. The state could help educate towns as to the appropriate use of GIS and the benefits. This education would have to be in the form of demonstrations and would have to take place in the county in order for town officials to attend. A seminar held at the county seat, Wiscasset, might be attended by towns in the county.

The County sees itself as a data storing and disseminating agency for towns. The county could house GIS software and data as well as a large format plotter. This would eliminate the need for all towns to invest in plotters. The County could then print maps for towns.